

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

MELISSA CORSO

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CRIM. NO. 21-CR-586 (BRM)

**ORDER REGARDING USE OF VIDEO CONFERENCING/TELECONFERENCING
FOR FELONY PLEAS AND/OR SENTENCINGS**

In accordance with the operative COVID-19 standing orders, this Court finds:

☒ That the Defendant (or the Juvenile) has consented to the use of video
teleconferencing/teleconferencing to conduct the proceeding(s) held today, after consultation
with counsel; and

☒ That the proceeding(s) to be held today cannot be further delayed without serious harm
to the interests of justice, for the following specific reasons:

See Attachment A.

Accordingly, the proceeding(s) held on this date may be conducted by:

☒ Video Teleconferencing


☐ Teleconferencing, because video teleconferencing is not reasonably available for the

following reason:

☐ The Defendant (or the Juvenile) is detained at a facility lacking video
teleconferencing capability.

☐ Other:

Date: March 15, 2022


Honorable Brian Martinotti
United States District Judge

ATTACHMENT A

The Court finds that the sentencing hearing to be held on March 15, 2022, cannot be further delayed without serious harm to the interests of justice, for the following reasons:

1. To permit the defendant to obtain a speedy resolution of his case through a timely sentencing hearing to afford appropriate punishment and rehabilitation, and the defendant making amends to any victims through restitution. The defendant, Melissa Corso, would like to move forward and resolve the case without undue delay.
2. To permit the victims of the offense the ability to obtain a speedy resolution for the harm caused to them.
3. To permit the Government to obtain a resolution of the case so that the Government, already operating in a restricted capacity due to the emergency, may appropriately focus its resources on other, emerging criminal matters. The Government has asked for this sentencing to be heard.
4. To ensure that the Court is not overwhelmed by cases and proceedings at the conclusion of this period of emergency. Currently, District Judges in New Jersey handle a substantially larger docket of cases than Judges in other Districts in the United States. New criminal cases continue to be assigned by the Court during the emergency. If the Court cannot resolve matters now by guilty plea and sentencing, the resulting backlog will overwhelm the Court's ability to function effectively. The concern of such congestion and the particular harm that likely will be caused by delays in the processing of cases and matters in the future is particularly acute in this emergency, at least given that it is unknown when this emergency will subside and when the Court will be able to function at normal capacity (including, among other things, the empanelment of trial juries).